

REMARKS

Summary of the Amendment

Upon entry of the present Amendment, Claims 15 and 16 will have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 7-14 and 17 remain pending in the present application. By the present Amendment and Remarks, Applicant submits that the rejections and objections have been overcome, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter for Claims 7-14 and 17.

Traversal of Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. In an effort to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled Claims 15 and 16 without prejudice and reserves the right to re-present such claims at a later time. As such, Applicant submits that the rejection with respect to these claims is now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record anticipate or render obvious the Applicant's invention as recited in Claims 7-14 and 17. The applied reference of record has been discussed and distinguished, while the significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 502456.

Respectfully submitted,

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